

REMARKS:

Final Office Action

In the final Office Action dated March 17, 2004, claims 1, 5, 6, 12, 13 and 17, 18-22 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wallach et al, and claims 11, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wallach et al. In view of Ezaki.

Ezaki (U.S. Patent No. 6,594,485)

Ezaki was filed in the U.S. on October 14, 1999. The priority of the present invention goes back to November 12, 1998. Therefore, Ezaki is not prior art against the present application. To exclude Ezaki, Applicants submitted a certified translation of the Japanese priority document on July 15, 2004.

Wallach et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,292, 905)

Wallach et al. provides fault tolerant access to a network resource. A replicated network directory database operates in conjunction with server resident processes to remap a network resource in the event of a server failure. (see ABSTRACT). In other words, in Wallach et al., a secondary server is provided in addition to a primary server. The secondary server has a replicated network directory database. When the primary server goes down, the replicated database is updated to reflect the failure of the primary server and to change the affiliation of the network resource from the primary to the secondary server.

The Present Invention

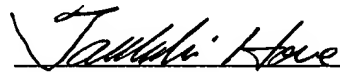
The present invention has nothing to do with a backup system as discussed in Wallach et al. In the present invention, if a communication is disrupted, an analysis is made on a cause of the disruption to determine whether or not the communication disruption is restorable. If the disruption is not restorable, a report is made to the communication device that the communication has been disrupted. On the hand, if the disruption is restorable, no report regarding the disruption is made to the

communication device. In other words, the disruption is disguised from the communication device.

If the disruption is restorable, the network is being monitored to see if the disrupted communication becomes ready for restoration. If the disrupted communication becomes ready for restoration within a period of time, the disrupted communication is reestablished, and the data communication is "resumed," or begins from the point when it was disrupted, without reporting the disruption to the communication device. Therefore, the communication device has no knowledge of the disruption. The communication device is notified of the disruption if the disrupted communication fails to become ready for restoration within a period of time.

There is nothing in Wallach et al. that discloses or teaches the above present invention.

Respectfully submitted,



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